

## REMARKS

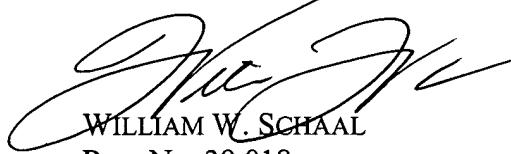
This Preliminary Amendment is filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination. Applicants respectfully request examination of all pending claims. Such examination at Examiner's earliest convenience is respectfully solicited.

## CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP



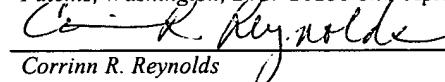
WILLIAM W. SCHAAL  
Reg. No. 39,018

Dated: April 11, 2003

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### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on, April 11, 2003.



Corrinn R. Reynolds 4/11/03  
Date